

OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER
ELECTIONS DIVISION

Michael J. Scarpello, Director



Stephanie Y. O'Malley
Clerk and Recorder
Public Trustee

City and County of Denver
Office of the Clerk and Recorder
Parr-Widener Community Room, City & County Building
1437 Bannock Street, Room 389
Public Forum
Tuesday, September 23, 2008
5:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Stephanie Y. O'Malley, Clerk & Recorder
Michael Scarpello, Director of Elections
Carol Tone, League of Women Voters
Bonita Carlson, citizen
Sigrid Freese, citizen
Barbara Blum-Barnett, citizen
Dave Lewis, Citizen Advocate
Alicia Hunt, citizen
Walt Beckert, Safe City

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amber McReynolds, Deputy Director of Elections
Nancy Reubert, Communications Director
Alton Dillard, Media and Public Relations Specialist
Jim Williams, Operations Manager
Paul Casper, Logistics Manager
Lisa Stubbs, Administrative Services Coordinator

I. CALL TO ORDER

Stephanie O'Malley called the meeting to order at 5:30pm and reminded everyone that the purpose of the Public Forum is to provide monthly updates on the ongoing functions of the Office of the Clerk & Recorder (CR).

- A. Approval of Minutes – With no need for modifications, O'Malley affixed her signature to the Public Forum Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2008.
- B. Clerk's Office, Public Trustee, Recording Reports – Reviewed by O'Malley.
 1. Report on the numbers for the Office of the Clerk and Recorder for the month of August:

- City Clerk – issued 500 marriage licenses.
- Public Trustee – processed 148 foreclosures, YTD foreclosures 4,398. Total withdrawals 169, YTD withdrawals 1,324. Releases of Deeds of Trust 2,330, YTD 21,730.
- Recording Division – recorded 203 documents and scanned 637.
- Records Division – 229 records were requested and 2,506 pages were copied for customers.
- Total Revenue 443,517, YTD revenue 3,704,705. \$6.9 million budget revenue. 53% of revenue collected.
- Question from Dave Lewis, Citizen Advocate – Does the \$6.9 million include the \$1.7 million supplemental for the Elections Division?
- Answer from O’Malley- No, it does not include the 1.7 million.

II. ELECTIONS DIVISION DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES- Reviewed by Michael Scarpello.

- Administration Department Update
 - The Elections Division will work with “311” to answer calls for the General Election. The plan for November is to supplement the phone bank with 20-25 more phones thus increasing the phone lines to 60. There will also be 12 lines specifically for the judges.
 - Poll worker recruitment is still a high priority. There will be a total of 2,000 poll workers. 1,850 poll workers will be in the field.
 - Currently there are 100 temporary workers at the Elections Division, that number will more than double in the weeks leading up to the election.
 - The Elections Division has requested a \$1.7 million dollar supplemental from City Council.
 - Numbers on current voter registration – reviewed by Amber McReynolds: Total number of registered voters for the City and County of Denver is 395,521 of that number 263,770 are active, 131,751 are inactive, 118,223 have requested mail-in ballots and 103,355 are on permanent mail-in ballot list.
- Operations Department Update
 - The ballot for the General Election will be a two card four page ballot.
 - The same design that was used for the Primary will be used for the General. The reason for using the same design is due to the low duplication rate of 1.3%.
 - Ballots for the General Election are in production.
 - The Elections Division used statistics from the Primary Election to determine how many ballots are needed at each early voting site for the General Election.

- There were concerns with the speed of voter tabulation for the Primary Election. For the General Election, there will be two pick-ups during the day one at 9am and one at 1pm.
- Mapping of the polling places is available on the web for public use.
- Logistics Department Update
 - There will be 185 polling locations for the General Election.
 - Question from Carol Tone, League of Women Voters- How much backlog of voter registration does the Elections Division still need to process?
 - Answer from Amber McReynolds- There are about 15,000 pieces of paper that still need to be entered into SCORE which should take approximately 10 days.

III. COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION UPDATE – Reviewed by Nancy Reubert.

- Denver Tabor Book will be mailed October 3rd. The book includes: information on the vote model, an application to request a mail-in ballot, and a voting reminder sheet to help voters with the ballot.
- In mid October a 4th mailing will be sent to all registered voters who did not request a mail-in ballot. The postcard will have individual voter information.
- The Elections Division website has been updated to include a 2nd lookup for early voting sites.
- Spanish language website was launched.
- There are two bus ads for the Elections Division running on fifty different buses around Denver. The ad will run until November 4th.
- Starting October 6th there will be Spanish ads about the election running on three radio stations. The ads will run for three weeks.
- Developed the “Non Profit Challenge” for groups who want to recruit poll workers from their constituency. The poll workers would donate their earnings back to the group.
- ACCESO- The board is holding a Latino Voter Forum on September 28th from 11am to 2pm at the Mile High GI Forum. The board has pledged that each one of their board members recruit 5 to 10 bilingual poll workers.
- Poll workers will earn \$100 plus \$20, machine judges will earn \$140, assistant supervisors will earn \$190 and supervisors will earn \$230. Food will also be provided to all poll workers.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS BY CLERK AND RECORDER, STAFF, AND GUESTS

- Alton Dillard- review of key dates for the election.
- Question from Carol Tone, League of Women Voters- Why did some voters receive multiple ballots in the mail for the Primary Election?

- Answer from Amber McReynolds- The system would automatically issue a replacement ballot to any voter who requested a mail-in ballot and then made a change to either their address or party affiliation. The Elections Division is currently trying to come up with a way to mark those ballots as replacement so the voter knows the difference between the ballots received. When multiple ballots go out only one is accepted in the system.

V. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT AND/OR EXECUTIVE SESSION – O’Malley adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.

The Public Forum was televised by Denver 8 TV. To view the September 23, 2008 Forum in its entirety, visit: www.DenverGov.org/Denver8Online.

Stephanie Y. O’Malley, Clerk & Recorder

Attest

Date